

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Takashi SHIMOJIMA

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : Concurrently Herewith

For : FILE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND CONTENT
RECORDING/PLAYBACK APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 9, 10, 13, 14, 18, and 19 as follows (a marked-up copy of the claim amendments is provided as an attachment to this Amendment):

9. (Amended-Clean Copy) A content playback method comprising the steps
of:

when playing back content recorded on a recording medium by means of
the file management method according to claim 2, extracting a content file from
said recording medium; and

when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using said content file group management file.

10. (Amended-Clean Copy) The content playback method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using said package management file and said link resolution file.

13. (Amended-Clean Copy) A content playback apparatus for playing back content from said recording medium on which a content file is recorded by the content recording apparatus according to claim 12, said content playback apparatus comprising:

content file acquiring means for extracting a content file from said recording medium; and

link resolving means for, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using said content file group management file.

14. (Amended-Clean Copy) The content playback apparatus according to claim 13, wherein, when there is in s specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included, said link resolving means specifies a link destination content file using said package management file and said link resolution file.

18. (Amended-Clean Copy) A content playback program that, in order to play back content from a recording medium on which a content file is recorded by the content recording apparatus according to claim 12, causes a computer to function as:

content file acquiring means for extracting a content file from said recording medium; and

link resolving means for, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using said content file group management file.

19. (Amended-Clean Copy) The content playback program according to claim 18 for, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included, further causing

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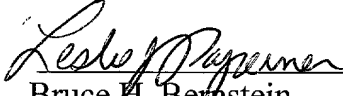
said link resolving means to function as means for specifying a link destination content file using said package management file and said link resolution file .

REMARKS

By the above amendment, the claims have been amended to delete multiple dependency.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

9. (Amended) A content playback method comprising the steps of:

when playing back content recorded on a recording medium by means of the file management method according to claim 2, extracting a content file from said recording medium; and

when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using [the] said content file group management file [according to claim 1].

10. (Amended) The content playback method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using [the] said package management file [according to claim 1] and [the] said link resolution file [according to claim 2].

13. (Amended) A content playback apparatus for playing back content from said recording medium on which a content file is recorded by the content recording apparatus according to claim 12, said content playback apparatus comprising:

content file acquiring means for extracting a content file from said recording medium; and

link resolving means for, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using [the] said content file group management file [according to claim 11].

14. (Amended) The content playback apparatus according to claim 13, wherein, when there is in s specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included, said link resolving means specifies a link destination content file using [the] said package management file [according to claim 11] and [the] said link resolution file [according to claim 12].

18. (Amended) A content playback program that, in order to play back content from a recording medium on which a content file is recorded by the content recording apparatus according to claim 12, causes a computer to function as:

content file acquiring means for extracting a content file from said recording medium; and

link resolving means for, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in the same package as that in which said content is included, specifying a link destination content file using [the] said content file group management file [according to claim 11].

19. (Amended) The content playback program according to claim 18 for, when there is in said content file a link specification to a file included in a different package from that in which said content is included, further causing said link resolving means to function as means for specifying a link destination content file using [the] said package management file [according to claim 11] and [the] said link resolution file [according to claim 12].